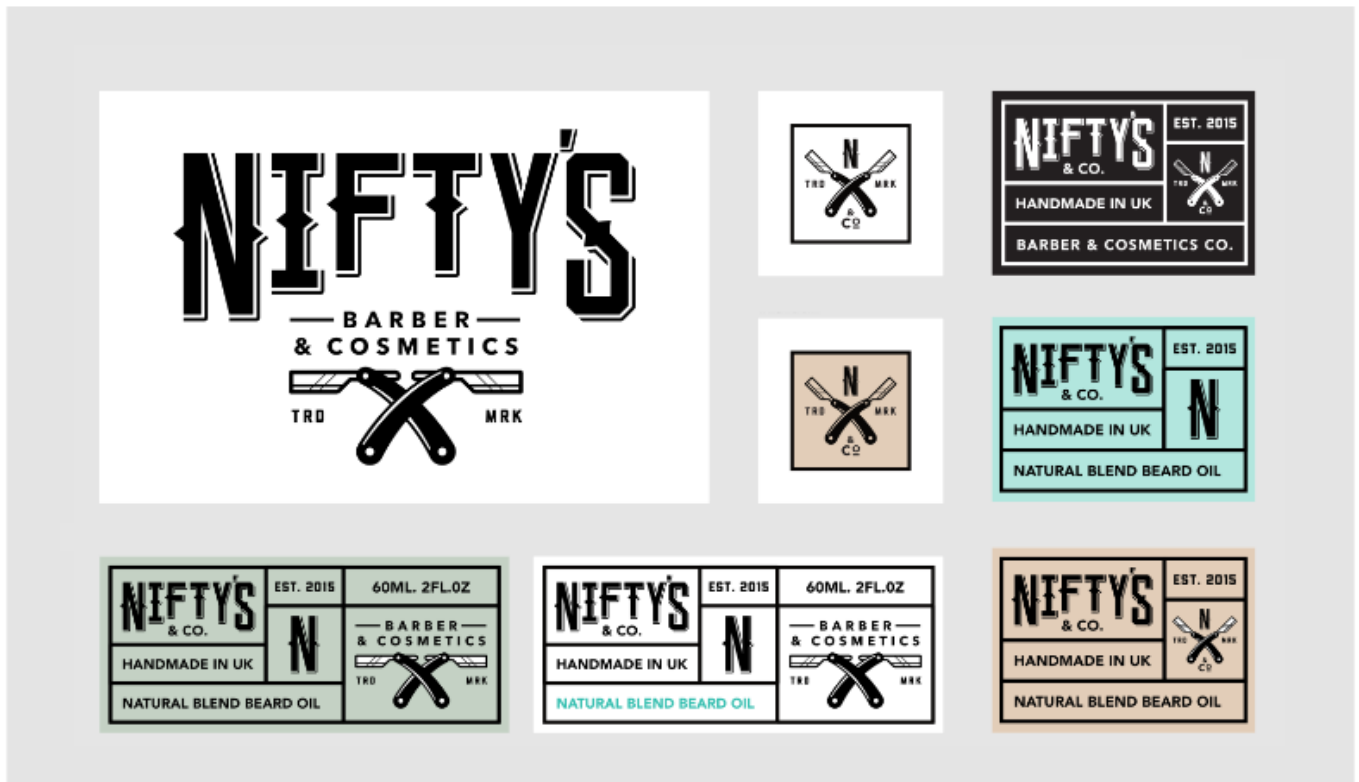


Artboards

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Artboards

Artboards are discrete design areas, of any shape and size, within the same document, on which you can place design elements. Objects which extend beyond the boundary of an artboard are clipped to the edge of the artboard's design area.



Artboards displaying a branding concept for a fictional company.

About artboards

Using artboards, you can convert a single page document into a multi-page, multi-product design project. Their true power lies within their flexibility—artboards have limitless uses.

The size of artboards can be based on presets or customized to suit your needs. They can be moved and resized just like other objects in a document and can be arranged in any way you want—sometimes this will be important to the outcome of the design, other times it simply helps you organize your work.

Artboards also possess their own color and opacity properties, so these can be adjusted at any time during the design process.

Artboards can be exported and printed together or separately, but are all saved together in their parent document.

You can apply a drawing scale to any artboard. Different artboards can adopt their own drawing scale independently of other ones.

 Artboards come complete with a dedicated [Artboard Tool](#) and [context toolbar](#).

Artboard topics:

- [Adding and removing artboards](#)
- [Selecting, moving and resizing artboards](#)
- [Renaming and viewing artboards](#)
- [Aligning and distributing artboards](#)
- [Artboard color and opacity](#)
- [Exporting artboards](#)
- [Printing artboards](#)

▼ Some uses for artboards

- Two artboards of equal size might represent two sides of a page.
- Several artboards of varying sizes could be used to create a branding concept including a company logo, letterheaded paper, compliment slip, envelope, business card and brochure.
- Various sized artboards might be placed together for an advertising campaign which includes a billboard poster, full- and half-page ads, flyers, as well as web banners and rich-graphic emails.
- Numerous artboards of equal size showing different screen displays of a mobile app.
- Two equal sized artboards could be used to design the back and front of a book cover, with a third, changeable width artboard in the middle to accommodate the spine.
- Numerous artboards of equal size could be created to allow for the design of a pack of cards.
- Progressive mockup artboards might be placed together leading to the final, signed off design artboard.
- Several artboards displaying color variants of an identical design.
- Various sized artboards arranged logically to form the basis of a concept sheet for character design.

SEE ALSO:

[Artboard Tool](#)

[Create new documents](#)

[Open documents and images](#)

[Drawing scale](#)

Adding and removing artboards

Artboards can be created with new documents or added to your current document at a preset or custom size at any time.

Adding artboards

When [creating a new document](#), you can automatically create your first artboard using the settings in the New Document dialog.

Once you have a [document open](#), you can add additional artboards in different ways:

- using the original document's dimensions—perfect for creating multi-page documents
- using preset sizes—perfect for device-specific designing
- using the current selection's dimensions
- at a custom size
- by copying or [duplicating](#) other artboards
- by converting a selected object
- by Object data entry

Removing artboards

Artboards can be deleted from your project at any time. Any objects placed on the artboard can either be kept or deleted (you're prompted to confirm which action you want to take via dialog). Kept objects will remain in their original position but will be on the pasteboard instead.

As an alternative to deleting an artboard, you can convert it into a standard object. In this situation, any objects on the artboard will be nested within the new object, thereby preserving your design.

▼ To create a new document with an artboard:

1. From the **File** menu, click **New**.
2. From the dialog, select a preset category and preset from the scrolling list.
3. (Optional) Adjust the settings in the dialog for a custom setup.
4. Check **Create artboard**. Some categories (e.g., Devices) automatically offer presets as artboards.
5. Click **Create**.

 You can apply a drawing scale factor to artboards via the New Document dialog or **File>Document Setup** by using the **Scale** tab. The **Measure Tool** also lets you apply a **Drawing Scale** factor, along with scaling based on a known measurement.

▼ To add artboards at preset dimensions:

1. (Optional) With the **Move Tool**, select one or more objects.
2. On the **Tools** panel, select the **Artboard Tool**.
3. On the context toolbar, from the **Size** pop-up menu, select:
 - **Document**—to add an artboard at the current document's dimensions to the canvas.
 - **Selection**—to add an artboard at the same size and position as the selected artboard or object(s). You may need to reposition the new artboard to give it its own space on the pasteboard.
 - any other preset—to add another artboard at a device-specific preset's dimensions.
4. On the context toolbar, click **Insert Artboard**.

▼ To add custom size artboards:

Do one of the following with the **Artboard Tool** selected:

- Using *Object data entry*: **Ctrl**-click on the page, then enter your artboard dimensions into the **Create Artboard** dialog. Optionally, set an anchor point to position the artboard in relation to the new anchor position, rather than the default or previously set anchor point. The last used settings will be remembered.
You can also choose a preset artboard size instead of a custom size using the dialog.
- For sizing 'by eye': Drag on the pasteboard.

Modifier keys

When using the Artboard Tool, the following modifier keys can be used:

- The **Shift** key constrains the artboard's proportions at the time of creation (to a square) or when resizing.
- The **Ctrl** key resizes the artboard from its center.
- Pressing the right mouse button lets you rotate an artboard about its opposite handle.

▼ To copy or duplicate an artboard:

- With an artboard selected, do one of the following:
 - With the **Move Tool** or **Artboard Tool**, **Ctrl**-drag the artboard.
 - From the **Edit** menu, select **Duplicate**.

▼ To convert an object to an artboard:

- With the single object selected, from the **Layer** menu, select **Convert Object to Artboard**.

 If an object has been converted to an artboard, that artboard remains editable as if it was the original object. For example, an artboard converted from a closed shape can still be edited as a closed shape and an artboard converted from artistic text can still be edited as text.

▼ To remove an artboard:

1. Do one of the following:
 - Using the **Artboard Tool**, click to select a single artboard or **Shift**-click to select multiple artboards.
 - On the **Layers** panel, select one or more artboards.
2. Do one of the following:
 - Press the **Backspace** key.
 - On the **Layers** panel, click **Remove Layer**.

▼ To convert an artboard to an object:

- With the single artboard selected, from the **Layer** menu, select **Convert Artboard to Object**.

SEE ALSO:

[Artboard Tool](#)

[Selecting, moving and resizing artboards](#)

[Create new documents](#)

[Open documents and images](#)

[Duplicating objects](#)

Selecting, moving and resizing artboards

Once selected, artboards can be repositioned anywhere on the pasteboard and resized at any time to suit your needs.

Artboards can also be [rotated and sheared](#) directly on the pasteboard using the [Artboard Tool](#) or using precision edits using the [Transform panel](#).

💡 Selected artboards can also be modified in a variety of ways using different tools, depending on how the artboard was [originally created](#). For example, an artboard converted from a closed shape can still be edited as a closed shape using the Node Tool and an artboard converted from artistic text can still be edited as text using the Artistic Text Tool.

▼ To select artboards:

Do one of the following:

- With the **Artboard Tool** selected, click an artboard.
- On the **Layers** panel, select an artboard entry.
- With the **Move Tool** selected, do one of the following:
 - Click on an artboard's label.
 - Click on any *empty* artboard.

 Pressing the **Shift** key during any of the above operations will allow you to select multiple artboards.

▼ To reposition an artboard:

Do one of the following:

- Using the **Artboard Tool** or **Move Tool**, drag the selected artboard.
- Using the **Move Tool**, drag an artboard's label.
- With an artboard selected, on the **Transform** panel, adjust the **X** and/or **Y** settings.

▼ To resize an artboard:

With an artboard selected, do one of the following:

- Using the **Artboard Tool** or **Move Tool**, drag the artboard's selection handles.
- On the **Transform** panel, adjust the **W** (width) and/or **H** (height) settings.



Modifier keys

When using the Artboard Tool, the following modifier keys can be used:

- The **Shift** key constrains the artboard's proportions at the time of creation (to a square) or when resizing.
- The **Ctrl** key resizes the artboard from its center.
- Pressing the right mouse button lets you rotate an artboard about its opposite handle.



To rotate, shear and flip an artboard:

With an artboard selected, do one of the following:

- Using the **Artboard Tool** or **Move Tool**, drag the artboard's rotation handle, or position the cursor close to one of the artboard's corner handles and drag on the page.
- Using the **Artboard Tool** or **Move Tool**, position the cursor close to one of the artboard's side handles and drag on the page.
- On the Toolbar, select a flip or rotate option.
- On the **Transform** panel, adjust the **R** (rotation) and/or **S** (shear) settings.

SEE ALSO:

[Artboard Tool](#)

[Adding and removing artboards](#)

[Aligning and distributing artboards](#)

[Rotating and shearing objects](#)

[Transforming objects](#)

Renaming and viewing artboards

Artboards can be renamed and selected as targets for zooming, just like any other document objects.

Newly created artboards are given the default naming convention of 'Artboard {n}', while copied or duplicated artboards take on the same name as the original artboard.

Artboard names appear in the **Layers** panel as well as being located above their artboard on the pasteboard. To help you organize and identify artboards, you can rename them.

You can also zoom to artboards, for focused working, using the **Zoom to Selection** option.

▼ To rename an artboard:

Do one of the following:

- Double-click on the artboard's name (above the artboard) on the pasteboard, then enter a new name and click **Rename**.
- On the **Layers** panel, double-click the selected artboard's current name, then enter a new name for the artboard.

▼ To zoom to an artboard:

1. [Select an artboard](#).
2. From the **View** menu, select **Zoom to Selection**.

 You may wish to create view points for each of your artboards to allow you to quickly switch between them. For more information on creating view points, see the [Navigator panel](#) topic.

SEE ALSO:

[Artboards](#)

[Selecting, moving and resizing artboards](#)

[Navigator panel](#)

Aligning and distributing artboards

Although discrete design containers, artboards can be aligned and distributed just like any page object.

Once selected, artboards can be used in conjunction with the available [aligning](#), [distributing](#) and [spacing](#) commands.

▼ To align, distribute and space artboards:

1. [Select multiple artboards](#).
2. Do one of the following:
 - On the Toolbar, click **Alignment**, set your options from the pop-up panel, and then click **Apply**.
 - On the **Layer** menu's **Alignment** submenu, select an alignment option.
 - Select the **Move Tool** and then, on the context toolbar, select a horizontal or vertical alignment option.

SEE ALSO:

[Selecting, moving and resizing artboards](#)

[Aligning objects](#)

[Distributing objects](#)

Design aids and artboards

Unique guide and grid layouts can be established on each artboard to help you position objects. Furthermore, you can activate snapping to dynamically align objects to these guides.

When snapping is active, dynamic guide lines appear when an object is aligned to the edges, corners, or midpoints of the current artboard. You can likewise snap to other document artboards, if they have been established as snapping candidates.

For more information on guides and snapping, see the [Guides](#), [Grids](#) and [Snapping](#) topics.

▼ To add a ruler guide to an artboard:

- With an artboard selected, from the **View** menu, select **Guides**. Click the **Add new guide** icon for either horizontal or vertical ruler guides.

▼ To add a column guide to an artboard:

- With an artboard selected, from the **View** menu, switch on **Show Column Guides** then select **Guides**. The **Column Guides** section allows you to manage the following:
 - **Columns**—defines the number of vertical guides that will appear.
 - **Rows**—defines the number of horizontal guides that will appear.
 - **Gutter**—defines the size of the gutter.
 - **Style**—select from **Filled** or **Outline**.
 - **Color**—click the color swatch to select a color for your column guides.

▼ To add a grid to an artboard:

- With an artboard selected:
 1. From the **View** menu, select **Grid and Axis**.
 2. Select **Basic** mode.
 3. Set the **Spacing** and **Divisions** values.
 4. Click **Close**.

 If you choose to display or hide the grid, this will display or hide the grid for all artboards, not just the selected artboard.

▼ To set an artboard as a snapping candidate:

With the **Artboard Tool** selected, do one of the following:

- Click on the artboard you wish to make a snapping candidate.
- Hover over the artboard you wish to make a snapping candidate and wait for the artboard's border to flash purple.

SEE ALSO:

[Selecting, moving and resizing artboards](#)

[Aligning and distributing artboards](#)

[Guides](#)

[Grids](#)

[Snapping](#)

Artboard color and opacity

Like page objects, groups and layers, artboards have their own color and opacity properties.

Color properties

Any color (gradient or solid) can be applied to an artboard's fill using the Color or Swatches panels or the Gradient Tool. It will appear behind any objects placed on the artboard—therefore acting as a background color.

For information on applying colors to an artboard's fill or stroke, see the [Selecting colors](#) and [Gradient and bitmap fills](#) topics.

Opacity properties

The artboard's fill can also have a solid opacity or gradient transparency applied. This can be achieved using the **Color** panel or the Transparency Tool, respectively. For more information, see the [Selecting colors](#) and [Transparency](#) topics.

However, artboards also have an overall **Opacity** property which is controlled on the **Layers** panel. Adjusting the opacity of the artboard in this way *will affect all objects placed on the artboard*.

▼ To change the opacity of an artboard:

1. [Select an artboard](#).
2. On the **Layers** panel, use the **Opacity** control to set an opacity value.

▼ To use opacity quick keys:

1. [Select an artboard](#).
2. Press a numerical key, or two numerical keys in quick succession, to set the opacity. For example:
 - Press **4** for 40% opacity.
 - Press **0** for 100% opacity.
 - Press **4** and **5** for 45% opacity.
 - Press **0** and **7** for 7% opacity.

Moving artboard content

Objects created within artboards are clipped inside the artboard by default.

With **Edit All Layers** enabled, you can easily move objects between artboards, and also between pasteboards and artboards. This is called reparenting.

In the layer stack, the object will be repositioned to be within the target artboard object.

▼ To toggle Edit All Layers:

- On the **Layers** panel, click **Edit All Layers**.

SEE ALSO:

[Selecting, moving and resizing artboards](#)

[Aligning objects](#)

[Distributing objects](#)

Exporting artboards

Artboards can be exported as individual images or all the artboards in a document can be exported together as a single image.

If you select an artboard before proceeding to export, the selected artboard will automatically be selected in the Export dialog. However, all artboards in the current document are available for exporting from the Export dialog at any time, regardless of selection.

If you choose to export the entire document, all artboards in the document will be included in the exported image. The resulting image dimensions will be based on the smallest possible size relative to each artboard's size and position on the pasteboard. In other words, the smaller the artboard sizes and the closer they are together, the smaller the overall image's dimensions. For this reason, we advise exporting artboards in separate documents for print, web, and apps.

For more information on exporting an entire document, see the [Export](#) topic.

Export Persona

Slices (export areas) are automatically created for individual artboards, allowing you to access all the features available in [Export Persona](#).

▼ To export an individual artboard:

1. (Optional) [Select an artboard](#).
2. From the **File** menu, select **Export**.
3. Adjust the settings in the dialog.
4. From the **Area** pop-up menu, select a named artboard. (This step is not necessary if the above optional step was followed.)
5. Click **Export**.

▼ To export an artboard using Export Persona:

1. (Optional) On the **Export Options** [panel](#), adjust export settings as appropriate for artboard slices selected in the Slices panel.
2. On the **Slices** [panel](#), adjust settings as appropriate for each artboard slice by expanding the artboard slice entry. You can:
 - Add other file formats for export.

- Add additional size scalings (e.g., x3) or absolute sizes (100w) for the slice's export format.
- Rename files for export.
- Export specific sizes and formats selectively.

3. Click **Export Slices (n)** at the bottom of the panel to export all checked items.

4. Navigate to and select the storage folder for the exported image(s) and then click **Export**.

5. (Optional) On the **Slices** panel, select **Continuous** if you want to automatically re-export export areas if the document is subsequently changed. This option is only available if **Export Slices (n)** was selected above.

SEE ALSO:

[Artboards](#)

[Export](#)

[Exporting using Export Persona](#)

Printing artboards

Artboards can be printed individually, all together on one sheet or all on separate sheets.

▼ To print artboards:

1. From the **File** menu, select **Print**.
 2. In the **Print** dialog, click **Show Details**.
 3. Ensure **Range and Scale** is selected from the pop-up menu below the **Paper Size** setting.
 4. From the **Range** pop-up menu, select:
 - Entire document: All artboards are printed on a single sheet.
 - Artboards: Prints all artboards, each on a separate sheet.
 - Selection: Prints just the selected artboard.
 - Artboard name: Prints a named artboard.
 5. Adjust other settings in the dialog.
 6. Click **Print**.
-

SEE ALSO:

[Artboards](#)

[Print](#)